

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the consideration given the present application. Claims 6 and 11 are cancelled herein without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-10, 12, and 13 are pending. Claims 1 and 8 are amended, and claims 12 and 13 are added. Claims 1 and 8 are independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

Examiner Interview

If, during further examination of the present application, a discussion with the Applicants' Representative would advance the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Carl T. Thomsen, Registration No. 50,786, at 1-703-208-4030 (direct line) at his convenience.

Amendments to the Drawings

One sheet of Replacement Drawings (FIG. 4) is attached in order to provide reference numerals to the elements set forth in the claims. No new matter has been added.

Amendments to the Specification

The second full paragraph on page 20 of the specification has been amended merely to provide antecedent basis for the elements shown in the original FIGS. and now set forth in the claims. No new matter has been added.

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Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1, 2, and 4-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Nishiyama et al. (U.S. 2002/0140225);

claims 1, 2, and 4-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ostrander et al. (U.S. 6,805,383); and

claims 1, 2, and 4-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bock (U.S. 6,173,998).

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

For example, the Examiner has made no comments whatsoever about the subject presented in any of the dependent claims, as is required.

Amendments to Independent Claims 1 and 8

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, each of independent claims 1 and 8 has been amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a resin tube-equipped quick connector, including *inter alia*

“wherein the press-fitting portion is provided along the length L with the following portions, one immediately after another:

a first truncated-conical-shaped portion extending from the ring-shaped end face;

a cylindrical-shaped root portion,

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the plurality of truncated-conical-shaped annular projections each followed by a ring-shaped face and another cylindrical-shaped root portion,

a second truncated-conical-shaped portion, which ends abutting with the ring-shaped end face of the connector body.”

As the Examiner will note, dependent claims 6 and 11 are now cancelled, and the subject matter previously set forth in claims 6 and 11 has been incorporated into independent claims 1 and 8, respectively.

In addition, support for the novel features of independent claims 1 and 8, as amended, can be found, for example, in FIG. 4 of the original application.

Regarding the Nishiyama et al. Reference

This document merely discloses press-fitting portion 6 having a completely different structure. (See for example the convex ring immediately to the left of reference numeral 6 in FIG. 3.)

Regarding the Ostrander et al. Reference

This document merely discloses press-fitting portion 12 having a completely different structure. (See for example the rectangular notch containing a sealing element shown in the cross-sectional view of FIG. 5.)

Regarding the Bock Reference

This document merely discloses press-fitting portion 11 having a completely different structure. (See for example the rectangular notch containing a sealing element shown in the

cross-sectional view of FIG. 3. In addition, FIG. 3 shows that there is no cylindrical-shaped root portion immediately to the left of left annular projection.)

At least for the reasons explained above, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in each of independent claims 1 and 8 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Nishiyama et al., Ostrander et al. and Bock.

Therefore, independent claims 1 and 8 are in condition for allowance.

Dependent Claims

The Examiner will note that dependent claims 6 and 11 have been cancelled, and dependent claims 12 and 13 have been added to set forth additional novel features of the present invention.

All dependent claims are in condition for allowance due to their dependency from allowable independent claims, or due to the additional novel features set forth therein.

All pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) are respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

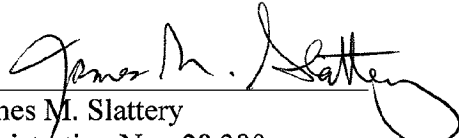
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at (703) 208-4030 (direct line).

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Dated: September 16, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: One Sheet of Replacement Drawings (FIG. 4)

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